

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 22-263V

UNPUBLISHED

LAWRENCE KNIGHT,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: January 24, 2023

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;  
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;  
Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)

*Laura Levenberg, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for Petitioner.*

*Mark Kim Hellie, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.*

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT<sup>1</sup>**

On March 8, 2022, Lawrence Knight filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) resulting from adverse effects of the influenza vaccination received on September 25, 2019. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges that the vaccination was administered within the United States, his GBS symptoms persisted for more than six months, and neither he, nor any other party, has ever filed any action, or received compensation in the form of an award or settlement for Petitioner’s vaccine-related injury. Petition at 1-2. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

On December 27, 2022, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, Respondent determined that "[P]etitioner has satisfied the criteria set forth in the Vaccine Injury Table ('Table') and the Qualifications and Aids to Interpretation ('QAI')." *Id.* at 4. Respondent further agrees that "the case was timely filed, that the vaccine was received in the United States, and that [P]etitioner satisfies the statutory severity requirement by suffering the residual effects or complications of his injury for more than six months after vaccine administration. Petitioner also avers that he has not 'received an award or settlement for [his] vaccine injuries' and that he has not 'filed a civil action.'" *Id.* Respondent conceded that entitlement to compensation is appropriate under the terms of the Vaccine Act. *Id.* at 5.

**In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Brian H. Corcoran**

Brian H. Corcoran  
Chief Special Master